

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 HEW-06 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 IGA-02 /037 W

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R 231225Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8578

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 14132

JOINT STATE/AID MESSAGE

PASS: OES/EP/PA, DHEW/PHS/NIG, NEA/INS, AID/ASIA/SA,  
BIS,PHA/POP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP,IN

SUBJECT: TAMIL NADU ANNOUNCES PACKAGE OF INCENTIVES AND DIS-  
INCENTIVES TO PROMOTE FAMILY PLANNING

1. AMCONGEN MADRAS REPORTS THAT THE TAMIL NADU HAS  
ANNOUNCED A PACKAGE OF INCENTIVES AND DISINCENTIVES TO  
PROMOTE STERILIZATION, SIMILAR TO THE ONE NOW BEING IMPLEMENTED  
IN DELHI AND UTTAR PRADESH.

2. UNDER THE PACKAGE, WHICH COMES INTO FORCE IMMEDIATELY,  
MATERNITY BENEFITS, LEAVE TRAVEL CONCESSIONS, FREE MEDICAL  
CARE, ETC., AVAILABLE TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WOULD BE  
RESTRICTED TO THOSE WITH THREE CHILDREN. GOVERNMENT  
EMPLOYEES WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PAY HOSPITAL AND OTHER  
CHARGES FOR THE FOURTH AND SUBSEQUENT DELIVERIES UNLESS  
EITHER SPOUSE AGREES TO ACCEPT STERILIZATION. PREFERENCE  
WILL BE GIVEN IN GRANTING GOVERNMENT LOANS FOR CONSTRUC-  
TION OF HOUSES, ASSIGNING HOUSING SITES AND PURCHASING  
VEHICLES TO EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE TWO CHILDREN OR LESS AND  
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WHO HAVE BEEN STERLIZED.

3. THE RULES RESTRICTING FREE MEDICAL CARE AND LEAVE TRAVEL ASSISTANCE, HOWEVER, WOULD NOT BE APPLICABLE TO THOSE WHO ALREADY HAVE MORE THAN THREE CHILDREN. IN THEIR CASES, SUCH BENEFITS WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO ALL EXISTING CHILDREN BUT WOULD BE DENIED TO ANY CHILD BORN AFTER ONE YEAR.

4. IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ESPEIALLY IN THE RURAL AREAS, TO LIMIT THEIR FAMILY SIZES, THE STATE GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE PREFERENCE TO THOSE HAVING THREE CHILDREN OR LESS AND WHO HAVE BEEN STERILIZED IN ASSIGNING GOVERNMENT LANDS SECURED UNDER LAND REFORM LEGISLATION. NO STRONG DISINCENTIVES ARE PROPOSED FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC, HOWEVER.

5. AS IN DELHI AND UTTAR PRADESH, ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN TAMIL NADU ARE TO BE INVOLVED IN FAMILY PLANNING WORK. EACH SCHOOL TEACHER WOULD BE EXPECTED TO MOTIVATE AT LEAST TWO CASES DURING THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR. THOSE WHO FULFILL THIS QUOTA WOULD EARN COMMENDATION CERTIFICATES, CASH AWARDS OR ADVANCE STEP INCREMENTS. HOWEVER, UNLIKE DELHI AND UTTAR PRADESH, NO PUNISHMENTS ARE CONTEMPLATED FOR NON-FULFILLMENT OF THE TARGETS.

6. COMMENT: TAMIL NADU HAD BEEN OPPOSED TO DISINCENTIVE MEASURES FOR FAMILY PLANNING UNTIL THE STATE CAME UNDER CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION. THE DECISION TO INTRODUCE SUCH MEASURES NOW CLOSELY FOLLOWS THE GOI DECISION RECENTLY TO AMEND ITS SERVICE REGULATIONS TO IMPOSE A THREE-CHILD LIMIT FOR ALL CENTRAL STAFF (SEE NEW DELHI 13137).

AMONG THE OTHER SOUTHERN STATES, BOTH KARNATAKA AND ANDHRA PRADESH ANNOUNCED THEIR OWN PROGRAMS OF INCENTIVES AND DISINCENTIVES SEVERAL MONTHS AGO. KERALA IS THE ONLY STATE WHICH HAS SO FAR INTRODUCED NO SUCH PROGRAMS. SAXBE

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